

SPECIFICATION AMENDMENT

Please add the following new heading and paragraph at page 1, line 12, between the title and the “Background of the Invention” heading:

Cross-Reference to Related Application

This application hereby incorporates by reference and claims benefit of U.S. Application No. 09/053,098, filed on 4/01/1998, now U.S. Patent No. 6,684,211.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 16, with the following amended paragraph:

In a preferred embodiment, the multimedia editor is included with a communication system for sending and receiving electronic chat and electronic mail messages in real time, and for presenting web documents in a compressed form. Each multimedia element can include text, sound, pictures, animation, program fragments (such as a Java applet, a pointer to a database retrieval engine, or a uniform resource locator, also known as URL), or a combination or compilation thereof.

When a sender enters an abbreviation, an associated multimedia element is transmitted as an electronic chat message or constructed for transmission as an electronic mail message; the choice of associated multimedia element can be responsive to a receiver’s capability, and can be selected at the receiver dynamically in response to user actions (such as time taken to look at the multimedia

element). The sender can also transmit a theme; multimedia objects are presented to the recipient using the sender's theme, or can be overridden to use a different theme. If the multimedia objects associated with the abbreviations are available at the recipient or at a common server, electronic chat messages, electronic mail messages, and web documents can be compressed and transmitted using only the abbreviations.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 17, with the following amended paragraph:

In a preferred embodiment, the client stations 110 and the server station 120 communicate using a known communication protocol, such as POP (post office protocol) or SMTP (simple mail transfer protocol). The client stations 110 and the server station 120 use the known communication protocol for transmitting electronic mail messages, HTTP (hypertext transfer protocol) for transmitting web documents, and other known communication protocols for transmitting electronic chat messages.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 13, with the following amended paragraph:

Each multimedia object 116 includes a data element for use with multimedia presentation, such as a text element, an audio element (such as a sound clip in AU or WAV form), a graphical

element, a picture element (such as a picture in GIF or JPEG form), or an animation or video element (such as a movie clip in AVI or MPEG form). The multimedia objects 116 can also include data elements such as databases, program fragments (such as Java applets or ActiveX hooks, CGI (common gateway interface) scripts, or a qualified URL), or special document formats (such as a document in Adobe PDF format).

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 5, with the following amended paragraph:

After replacing the abbreviation 115 with its associated multimedia object 116 in the sequence, the client station 110 transmits an altered multimedia sequence (that is, with the replacement having been made) to the server station 120, such as for transmission to a destination client station 110 as an electronic chat message or an electronic mail message. The electronic chat message or electronic mail message thus includes the altered multimedia sequence, some of which has been replaced and some of which has not been replaced. The server station 120 transmits the multimedia sequence to the destination client station 110 using an electronic chat protocol or an electronic mail protocol. The destination client station 110 receives the multimedia sequence and presents the multimedia elements (along with the unreplaced portions of the sequence) to an operator at the destination client station 110.

Please delete the Abstract and replace it with the following Abstract: